



Saguaro National Park News Release

For Immediate Release

14-10

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Saguaro National Park Hosts a WNP Mexican Arts Demonstration and Sale in the Rincon Mountain Visitor Center.

Tucson, AZ - An impressive variety of Mata Ortiz pottery, Oaxacan wood carvings and Zapotec rugs will be featured in an Art Demonstration & Sale, sponsored by Western National Parks Association (WNPA) at the Rincon Mountain Visitor Center in Saguaro National Park, (east). The event will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 14 and Sunday, December 15.

Mata Ortiz pots are hand built without the use of a potter's wheel. Shaping, polishing and painting the clay is entirely done by hand, often with brushes made from children's hair. All materials and tools originate from supplies that are readily available locally. The preferred fuel for the low temperature firing is grass-fed cow manure or split wood. Each of these characteristics derives from the ancient pottery traditions of the region.

Attendees can meet master Mata Ortiz potters Baudel Lopez, Damian Quezada and Jorge Quintana. Pottery demonstrations will also be held daily at 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Proceeds support education, outreach and research initiatives in Saguaro National Park. More information can be found at www.wnpa.org or by calling 520 733 5159.

Details:

What: Mexican Arts Demonstration and Sale

Where: Rincon Mountain Visitor Center, 3693 S. Old Spanish Trail, Tucson, AZ 85730

When: Saturday and Sunday, December 14-15 at 10am - 4pm

About Western National Parks Association:

Western National Parks Association helps make the national park experience possible for everyone. As a nonprofit partner of the National Park Service, WNP supports parks across the West, developing products, services, and programs that enrich the visitor experience. Since 1938, WNP has worked to connect new generations to parks in meaningful ways, all with one simple goal: Create advocates who want to preserve and protect these special places for everyone, for all time. For more information on WNP, visit www.wnpa.org.

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